

**SPEAKER BARRETT:** Thank you. Senator Higgins, please, followed by Senators Hefner and Peterson.

**SENATOR HIGGINS:** Thank you, Mr. President, colleagues, I address my remarks particularly to those who believe in freedom of choice. And, as the bill now stands, I think it is fine. But Senator Peterson would undo what this body did to make it a better bill just a few short weeks ago. And, as Senator Peterson pointed out, if these young men, our Nebraska youngsters, fail to register for the draft, he says that is their own business if they don't want to register and I agree with Senator Peterson and it should be left to be their own business. He points out they also will not be eligible for government loans, government jobs, government appointments, student loans. I don't think there is a young man in the State of Nebraska today that doesn't know the law about registering with the Selective Service System. I don't think there is a young man in the State of Nebraska, if we pass this bill, is going to get a notice from the Legislature or the Governor's Office or from Senator Peterson saying, ha, ha, the Legislature has passed a bill now that if you don't register for the draft, you aren't going to get a student loan, you're never going to get appointed to some federal board or commission. I don't think there is going to be any great big hoopla about that. Governor Orr has a bill pending that will increase the fees to obtain this type of information from our Department of Motor Vehicles, but here is Uncle Sam, our rich uncle, who has cut federal funds year after year after year to the states. I'm sure Senator Haberman knows that agriculture has been receiving cuts right along. I'm sure that Senator Wesely, Chairman of the Human Services Committee, knows that we have been receiving cuts from the federal government. And so Governor Orr has a plan to raise a little money to get back some of what the federal government has been taking away. And, you know, those aren't federal dollars that come to Nebraska. That is yours and mine and all of the Nebraska's income tax that they are giving part of it back to us, but if we would adopt this amendment, what they are saying is, hey, Nebraska, after we've slit your throat all these times, we want you to provide us information for maybe \$200 which any Nebraskan or any corporation in Nebraska, if they require it, they've got to pay a fee, not a facetious cost that is dreamed up, but they have to pay a fee which right now is a dollar. This bill is also extremely prejudicial. No young woman who does not register for the draft is going to be denied a student loan, a government loan, a government appointment, neither is Senator Peterson. Governor Orr can appoint him to